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BACKGROUND AND OPINION
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Charles Bartlett

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J. Edgar Hoover has been frozen into his job indefinitely by the Democrats' attack on him. Attorney-General John Mitchell and the White House, where President Nixon had seemed earlier to be anxious to get Hoover to retire, have both urged Hoover to hold tight to his job. The FBI director is scorning advice that he give interviews to demonstrate his lucidity. He simply intends, it appears, to hold onto his job until the new FBI building is finished in 1974. He will then be 79 years old.

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Richard Kleindienst, deputy attorney-general, is blamed by the White House for the contradictory style in which the veterans demonstrating here were handled.

Against the unanimous advice of his staff, Kleindienst insisted on asking for a Federal Court injunction to prevent veterans from sleeping on the Mall.

The President, who had not been consulted, made him have the order rescinded after it was issued because he did not want to confront the veterans head-on.

RICHARD KLEINDIENST
. . . his idea?